

**REMARKS**

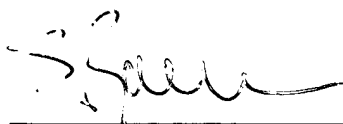
Claims 1-17 were pending in this application, with Claims 1 and 8 being independent. Claims 1-7 and 15 have been cancelled, and Claim 17 has been amended to now depend from allowable Claim 8.

Applicants have submitted herewith a certified copy of the Japanese patent application from which the subject application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that all claims are allowable and request prompt passage to issue.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at (860) 571-5001 or by facsimile at (860) 571-5028. All correspondence should be directed to the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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